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LETTER DATED 27 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I would like to inform you that the local Serb leaders in the United Nations Protected Areas on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, once again disrupted already established dialogue with the Croatian Government. The positive results of the Topusko meeting (held on 18 May in the town of Topusko between Croatian and Serbian delegation under the auspices of UNPROFOR), are seriously undermined because of the unwillingness by the Serbian side to continue a dialogue aimed at normalizing the situation in the UNPAs.

The Serbian side refused to sign the agreement concerning cessation of all hostile activities, which has been scheduled to take effect from 1200 hours, local time, on 20 May 1993. Although it has been agreed in Topusko that the talks between the two sides will continue in Zagreb on 26 May, Serbian representatives did not show up, thus putting a halt to the advancing peace initiative.

We would like to express that the Croatian Government remains open to dialogue with the representatives of the Serbian population in the UNPAs, in the sincere hope that the process of gradual reintegration of the UNPAs with the rest of Republic can finally start. In this regard Croatia established a Governmental Committee for Normalization of Croatian-Serbian Relations, which held its first meeting on 3 May. In spite of this fact, the radical Serbs in the UNPAs are refusing to cooperate with the Croatian Government, the aforesaid Committee will continue its work with determined effort to bridge over the problems that have occurred since the Serbian aggression against the Republic of Croatia.

The Croatian Government is ready to take all necessary measures for normalizing relations with the Serbian population in Croatia, especially concerning questions of the human and minority rights protection. Croatia will continue with its policy of strictly following the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 815 (1993) which states that "UNPAs are an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Croatia". The framework for the final and durable solution of the UNPA problem is emphasized in the Secretary-General's report S/25777, paragraph 11, which underlines that "the

sovereignty and integrity of the State of Croatia has to be respected" and "members of the Serb population in Croatia must be able to feel secure within the boundaries of the State".

It is our feeling that the reluctance of the world community to immediately start implementing all the relevant Security Council resolutions on the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is sending the wrong signals to militant Serbian self-proclaimed leaders in the occupied parts of those republics, as well as to Serbia. Consequently we are witnessing new militant calls from the Serbian side, such as the refusal by authorities in Belgrade to follow the already accepted initiative for posting international monitors on the border between Serbia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Therefore Croatia calls for determined measures in restoring peace and stability in the entire region. Peaceful dialogue between the Croatian Government and the Serbian population on Croatian territory is an essential part of this process, but must not in any way jeopardize the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative